

AN ANALYSIS OF MORAL VALUES IN NOVEL “OLIVER TWIST” BY CHARLES DICKENS

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini membahas tentang nilai moral yang ditemukan di dalam novel *Oliver Twist*. Nilai moral ditemukan dengan menggunakan teori sociological. Peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif di dalam penelitian ini. Instrumen penelitian ini adalah novel *Oliver Twist*. Peneliti juga mencari informasi lain yang terkait dengan masalah penelitian. Peneliti menggunakan pendekatan sosiologis untuk mengetahui nilai-nilai moral dalam novel "*Oliver Twist*" berdasarkan perspektif sebagai berikut: perspektif fungsionalis, perspektif simbol, dan perspektif konflik. Setelah menganalisis novel *Oliver Twist*, peneliti menemukan beberapa nilai-nilai moral adalah ketabahan, bersimpati kepada orang lain, pemberani, jujur, kegotong-royongan, syukur, dan baik hati.

Kata kunci: *Nilai moral, Teori Sosiologis, Novel Oliver Twist*

ABSTRACT

This research discussed about the moral values as found on “*Oliver Twist*” novel. The moral values were found out by using sociological theory. This research is descriptive qualitative. The instrument used was the novel of *Oliver Twist*. The researcher also used other informations which related to the research problems. The researcher use sociological approach to find out the moral values in novel “*Oliver Twist*” based on the perspective: functionalist perspective, symbol perspective, and the conflict perspective. After analyzing the novel *Oliver Twist*, the researcher found some moral values such as steadfastness, sympathetic to others, bravery, honesty, cooperativeness, thankfulness, and kind-hearted.

Key words: *Moral Values, sociological theory, Oliver Twist novel*

INTRODUCTION

Literature is a medium through which a person can convey his or her ideas or protest against different norms of society. Those works that deal with a normal issue are particularly purpose in mind. An author can communicate with the readers of a literary work if they can understand what the author wants to send. The author expresses his or her feeling, thought, ideas, or arguments about the social issues by writing those issues in a form of literary work.

A novel is one of genres of literary work which presents in detail the enlargement of character, or complicate social circumstances, or a relation between many

personalities. It is compose of many different phenomenons and intricate relationships surround by a few people in the novel (Stanton, 1965: 44).

Oliver Twist is a story about a life of an orphan who live in Victorian Era, where the child labor was existed. At this time, the growth of cities and the development of machinery became one of a kind of work that available to those people who need to earn some money to live in because they are very poor and unemployed. This story is made in order to complain about how poor the Poor Law Amendment Act, or known as the New Poor Law in 1834 went on. In theory, these laws

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should work for all people in all society class and persuade people out from poverty. But the result was very low from the expectation. Based on Poor Law Report, the laws encouraged the poor people to rely on charity rather than exercising themselves in work or the search of employment. With his innocence, Oliver went through his life journey, from worked as a criminal, until he reunited with his grandfather, Mr. Brownlow. In this story, Oliver proved that even though he lived in a chaotic world, there were still good things happened around him. He had made people who were bad, turned aside to be good. Although this story was taken from the Victorian Era, Charles Dickens made it simple to understand for all readers from then until now.

Based on the researcher's experience when analyze the implied meaning or moral values of the novel, the researcher to find of the problem moral values a novel from the reader. The reader difficult to find strategy or the theory to find the moral values of the novel. this is what makes the researcher interested to analyze. Because of the reason, the researcher analyze the moral values by using sociological theory.

In this research, the researcher analyses the *Oliver Twist* novel which is written by Charles Dickens. It is one of his great works which involves the poor child who has to work hard because of poverty. It tells about the struggle to find his true place in the world. This story is relevant with our life especially, in our life society. Besides, the researcher wants to know the moral values this novel and its implication on education. Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting a research entitled **"An Analysis of Moral Values in Novel "Oliver Twist" By Charles Dickens.**

A. Purpose of the research

The purposes of the research uses to find out the moral values in novel "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens based on using sociological theory

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

1. The Nature of Moral Values

Moral is a word which has relation with behavior. According to Hurlock

(1997:386), moral come from the Latin word *mores* that mean manner, customs, and folkways. It means that morality is attempt to guide the action of person with sense.

Value is what makes something desirable or undesirable" (Shockley-Zalabak 1999, p. 425).

According to Wibawa (2013:173) moral values can be used as a reference norm for a person or a group of people to determine whether the attitudes and action are good or not. Hartmann (2009 : 23) states that there is little prospect of our attaining any authoritative insight into moral values, as much, from the neighbouring fields or from a general theory. It means that as a value system that sets criteria or principles underlying the assessment of response or action.

William James Earle states that in contemporary English, the words *moral* and *ethical* derive from the Greek *ethos* meaning usage, character, personal disposition or tendency. *Morality* and *moral* derive from the Latin *mores*, meaning customs, manner, and character (Earle, 1992: 178). As stated by *Oxford Advances Learner's Dictionary*, moral relates to the standard or principles of good behavior (Hornby, 2010: 959).

There are kinds of moral values. It includes the universal concepts such as bravery, humbleness, honesty, justice, steadfastness, respectability, responsibility, sympathy, cooperativeness, thankfulness, trustworthiness, sincerity, and others (hornby, 2010).

2. Theories in Analyzing the moral values

1. The Definition of Sociological Theory

Theories in sociology provide us with different perspectives with which to view our social world. A perspective is simply a way of looking at the world. A theory is a set of interrelated propositions or principles designed to answer a question or explain a particular phenomenon; it provides us with a perspective. Sociological theories help us to explain and predict the social world in which we live.(Mooney, Knox, and Schacht: 2007).

Sociology includes three major theoretical perspectives: the functionalist perspective, the conflict perspective, and the symbolic interactionist perspective (sometimes called the integrationistperspective, or simply the micro view). Each perspective offers a variety of explanations about the social world

and human behavior.(Mooney, Knox, and Schacht:2007).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. RESIGN DESAIN

This research used a descriptive qualitative research. It was a research design part of qualitative method that allows the researcher to describe a phenomenon by presenting the facts in rich detail without attempting to interpret them. Moloeng (2007:6) says: Qualitative research is research that aims to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the subject of the study such behavior, perception, motivation, action, and so on, in a holistic manner and by way of description in the form of words and language, in a specific context that is natural and with utilizing a variety of natural method. It means that the qualitative research focused on the understanding in the concept of the research and human experience.

The research was held on December 2015. The researcher has conducted the research by analyzing the moral values of the novel "Oliver Twist". The researcher then described about the moral values of the novel "Oliver Twist".

B. Technique of Collecting the Data

The sourced of the data refer to the subject form which the data was obtain (Arikunto, 1998: 114). Because of this the research was literary study, they were considered as the materials of the research. In collecting the data, the researcher took two types of data, they were main data and supporting data

In this research, the researcher used technique of data collection like steps to collect data that were:

1. Selecting the novel repetitively and carefully.
2. Reading and learning all sentences from the novel text.
3. Identifying to find the data related to the study.
4. Classifying the data.
5. Selecting the relevant data
6. Reporting selected data.

C. Technique of Analyzing the Data.

The technique of Analyzing the Data was the process to found and arrange the data

systematically, by organizing the data into categories, describing the data into unit, arranging the data into pattern, and making conclusion.

After collecting the data, the researcher started analyzed the moral values in novel "Oliver Twist" by a sociological theory .

The steps of data analysis of novel :

- a. Collecting relevant references to the analysis of the novel.
- b. Describing synopsis of the novel and biography of the author.
- d. Extracting the moral values which implied in the novel by relating with the theory of moral values.
- e. Concluding the data analysis in order to answer the statement of the problem.

RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The research was descriptive qualitative which analyzed about the moral values in the novel "*Oliver twist*". In this chapter, the researcher would like to presented the analyzed of the moral values in novel "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens. The researcher would like to explained the entire moral values that found from in novel "Oliver Twist" by using sociological criticism theory.

Oliver Twist was one of Charles Dickens' most well-known novels. It is the first English novel that used a child as the protagonist main character. Novel was published in 2000 by Wordsworth Classic. It is utilized to contribute some social critics in the Victorian period. His formal education is careless. However, he was keen on reading. Then he works as a parliamentary reporter.

According to Baguswaluyo (2007: 28) , moral values are standards or principles in judging conducts or behavior. Bagus, by borrowing Stanton's opinion, says that moral values are the same in every society, since the moral values are influenced by the culture of group or society. Moral value, in this case, actually appears by the long process through the emergence of any society in running social activity. In the society, the people interact to one another. That creates norm and value of the

society; then from the norm and value, the moral value based on their agreement will seem by itself.

A. Sociological Theory

Sociology includes three major theoretical perspectives: the functionalist perspective, the conflict perspective, and the symbolic interactionist perspective (sometimes called the integrationist perspective, or simply the micro view). Each perspective offers a variety of explanations about the social world and human behavior.(Mooney, Knox, and Schacht:2007).

1. The analysis of moral values in “Oliver Twist” novel based on using sociological theory

After analysis “Oliver Twist” novel, the researcher found types of sociological perspective in “Oliver Twist” novel. There were several sociological perspective moral values that could found from the novel, they are :

1. The perspective of functionalist

According to Robert King Merton (1910–2003), the functionalist perspective is society is a functioning unit, with each part related to the whole. Whenever we examine a smaller part, we need to look for its functions and functions to see how it is related to the larger unit. This basic approach can be applied to any social group, whether an entire society, a college, or even a group as small as a family.

From the novel, the researcher found the functionalist perspective moral value in novel “Oliver Twist”. This social value found in the novel was:

And the boy, too,’ said the Jew, straining his eyes to catch a glimpse of her face. Poor little child! Left in a ditch, Nance; only think!’ The child,’ said the girl, suddenly looking up, is better where he is, than among us; and if no harm comes to Bill from it, I hope he lies dead in the ditch and that his young bones may rot there.’ What!’ cried the Jew, in amazement. Ay, I do,’ returned the girl, meeting his gaze. I shall be glad to have him away from my eyes, and to know that the worst is over. I can’t bear to have him about me. The sight of him turns me against myself, and all of you.’ (P. 165)

This explanation above, the researcher concluded that there are functional perspective values in “Oliver Twist” novel. This shows there are social values in the text. She is a girl who works for Fagin’s gang. She is only a woman in the group who has a respect and sympathy to Oliver. She feels happier that Oliver is not among the criminals after comprehending that he is left by Bill Sikes on the ditch. However, she thinks that it is better for Oliver to lie dead in the ditch than live with them who are very dangerous for him.

2. The Symbolic Interactionist perspective

Symbolic interactionists such as G.H. Mead (1863-1931) and C.H. Cooley (1846-1929) concentrate upon the interaction between individuals and groups. They note that people interact mainly through *symbols*, which include signs, gestures, and most importantly, through written and spoken words.

From the novel, the researcher found the symbolic interactionist perspective in novel “Oliver Twist”. This value was found in the novel :

It’s all over, Mrs. Thingummy!’ said the surgeon at last. Ah, poor dear, so it is!’ said the nurse, picking up the cork of the green bottle, which had fallen out on the pillow, as she stooped to take up the child. Poor dear!’ (P. 4)

From the explanation above, the researcher found the symbolic perspective in moral values was she is an old woman who acts as a nurse during Oliver’s birth. She steals a locket from Oliver’s dead mother that holds the key to his identification.

3. The conflict Perspective

According to Karl Marx, the conflict perspective is the dominance of men over women was once considered natural and right. As women gained education and earnings, however, they first questioned and then rejected this assumption. As wives strove for more power and grew less inclined to put up with relationships that they defined as unfair, the divorce rate increased. From the conflict perspective, then, our high divorce rate does not mean that marriage has weakened, but, rather, that women are making headway in their historical struggle with men.

From the novel, the researcher found of the conflict perspective in moral value in novel

“Oliver Twist”. This value was found in the novel :

Stuff and nonsense!’ said Mr. Fang: don’t try to make a fool of me. ‘ I think he really is ill, your worship,’ remonstrated the officer. I know better,’ said Mr. Fang. Take care of him, officer,’ said the old gentleman, raising his hands instinctively; he’ll fall down. ‘ Stand away, officer,’ cried Fang; let him, if he likes. ‘ (P.118)

This condition above there were sociological approach conflict perspectiveIn the *Oliver Twist* novel, Mr. Brownlow points out his sympathetic to Oliver who looks ill. He is an old gentleman who is the victim of burglary. He thinks that Oliver is the pickpocket who steals his handkerchief and wallet but he is still uncertain about it. He has a pity to Oliver when he is brought to the magistrate in the courthouse. He asks officer to take after Oliver because he recognizes that he is sick and so tired.

B. Moral Values

After analyses “Oliver Twist” novel for several times, the found several types of moral values in “Oliver Twist” novel based on the sociological theory. There were several moral values that could see sociological approach in perspective from the novel, they are:

a. Steadfastness

Steadfastness means that our attitudes and aims are not changed (Hornby, 2010: 1460).

From the novel, the researcher found out there were symbol perspective in the steadfastness in the novel For example, when Miss. Rose Maylie meets Nancy in the London Bridge, she offers Nancy to leave her underworld and live with her for a better life. He believes that it is never too late to change our bad attitude become good personality. Although Nancy refuses her offering because she cannot betray Fagin and Sikes but Rose still tries to invite her for future hopes.

It is never too late,’ said Rose, for penitence and atonement. ‘ It is,’ cried the girl, writhing in agony of her mind; I can not leave him now! I could not be his death. ‘ Why should you be?’ asked Rose. Nothing could save him,’ cried the girl. If I told others what I have told you, and led to their being taken, he would be sure to die. He is the boldest,

and has been so cruel!’ Is it possible,’ cried Rose, that for such a man as this, you can resign every future hope, and the certainty of immediate rescue? It is madness. ‘ (P.472).

b. Sympathetic to others

Sympathetic is the feeling of being sorry for somebody. It shows that we understand and care about the problems of the other people. (Hornby, 2010: 1514). It is an extension of empathic concern, or the perception, understanding, and reaction to the need of another human being. It is the act of entering into or sharing the feelings or interests of another.

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c. Bravery

Bravery is willing to things which are difficult (Hornby, 2010: 169). It is the ability to stand up for what is right in difficult situations. The bravery to take the decision is very useful to face the problems (Siagian, 2003: 112). It is not doubtful in facing the danger because gives the strength to do the action which is considered right in front of the strong opponent (Neuschel, 2008: 82).

From the novel, the researcher found the bravery moral value. The researcher found the value from the bravery of the main character in conflict perspective in sociological approach “Oliver Twist” novel. This value found in the novel was :

Please, sir, I want some more. 'What!' said the master at length, in a faint voice. Please, sir,' replied Oliver, I want some more. 'There was a general start. Horror was depicted on every countenance. For MORE!' said Mr. Limbkins. Compose yourself, Bumble, and answer me distinctly. Do I understand that he asked for more, after he had eaten the supper allotted by the dietary?' He did, sir,' replied Bumble. That boy will be hung,' said the gentleman in the white waistcoat. I know that boy will be hung. ' (P. 20-21)

This condition showed that the bravery of Oliver .In this novel has sociological approach using conflict theory perspective that could found was Oliver Twist braves to ask more gruel to the master because he and the children of work Although at first he is so frightened but he struggles to do that action. The boards of the workhouse are so furious to him. However, one of him wants Oliver to be hung. In this difficult situation, Oliver Twist faces this problem bravely.

d. Honesty

From the novel, the researcher found sociological theory in honesty moral value. The researcher found the value from the honesty of the main character in "Oliver Twist" this value was found in the novel :

What is all this!' said Rose. The truth, lady, though it comes from my lips,' replied the girl. Then, he said, with oaths common enough in my ears, but strange to yours, that if he could gratify his hatred by taking the boy's life without bringing his own neck in danger, he would; but, as he couldn't, he'd be upon the watch to meet him at every turn in life; and if he took advantage of his birth and history, he might harm him yet. In short, Fagin,' he says, Jew as you are, you never laid such snares as I'll contrive for my young brother, Oliver. His brother!' exclaimed Rose. Those were his words,' said Nancy, glancing uneasily round, as she had scarcely ceased to do, since she began to speak (P.472).

From the explanation above, the researcher found sociological approach in symbol perspective was Nancy is one of

Fagin's communities who has attention to the Oliver's suffering tells the truth about the wicked plan of the Jew and his friends to take out him from Mrs. Maylie. She is honest to Rose that there is a man named Monks who is actually Oliver's half brother who wants all of the inheritance from his father. They have same father but their mothers are different. He is only the man who knows and has proofs about Oliver's history. In doing her honesty, Nancy is in the danger. Because of if her friends in the underworld realize her action, they maybe will murder her or do brutal thing to her. However, she is not afraid to face the possible consequences which will occur.

e. Cooperativeness

Cooperativeness involves the fact of doing something together or working together toward a shared aim (Hornby, 2010: 323). The other proved of the cooperativeness moral value in novel "Oliver Twist" also could found in the novel was:

Has anything happened?' asked Oliver. Can I help you? I will if I can. I will, indeed.' (P. 332).

This situation proved that there were sociological approach in conflict perspective of the cooperativeness values in the novel. the values could show from the sentence "*Can I help you? I will if I can. I will, indeed.*" Oliver offers some helps to the person who needs any help. He asserts that he will do help if he can. It shows that Oliver has cooperativeness to the other people.

f. Thankfulness

Thankfulness is word or action that shows that we are grateful to somebody for something (Hornby: 2010: 1545).

The researcher found perspective in sociological approach of thankfulness value. This value showed in the novel was:

You ARE a great deal better, are you not, my dear?' said the gentleman. Yes, thank you, sir,' replied Oliver (P.125).

From the explanation above, the researcher found there were symbol perspective in thankfulness value . this value showed was Oliver wants to show his thankfulness by working to the dear lady who saves him from the danger by watering the flowers, watching the birds. He wants that the lady feels happy. He will be pleasure to do those works.

g. Kind-hearted

The kind-hearted is the quality of being kind (Hornby, 2010: 822). It is the act or the

state of being marked by good and charitable behavior, pleasant character, and concern for others. This value was showed in the novel :

Meanwhile, Oliver gradually throve and prospered under the united care of Mrs. Maylie, Rose, and the kind-hearted Mr. Losberne. If fervent prayers, gushing from hearts over-charged with gratitude, be heard in heaven and if they be not, what prayers are! the blessings which the orphan child called down upon them, sunk into their souls, diffusing peace and happiness (P.359).

The researcher determined the moral values from the novel based on sociological theory. According to sociological theory there was structure functionalism perspective. This novel points out that Rose, Mrs Maylie, and Mr. Losberne have kind hearted to Oliver. They save him from the difficult situation which is faced by him. Therefore the orphan Oliver Twist gets peace and happiness.

From the explanation above, the researcher concluded that there were values in "Oliver Twist" novel. the researcher determine the value based on sociological theory. In the novel Oliver has steadfastness, sympathy to other, bravery, honesty, thankfulness, cooperativeness, and kind-heart of moral values.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

After doing this research, based on the sociological approach in perspective, the researcher found seven moral values that contain on "Oliver Twist" novel. They were:

1. The moral values found in the novel "Oliver Twist" are a Steadfastness, sympathy to other, bravery, honesty, thankfulness, cooperativeness, and kind-hearted.
2. By using the sociological approach, based on the perspective of as follows: symbol, functionalist, and conflict. The researcher found several moral values were being a steadfastness, sympathy to other, bravery, honesty, thankfulness, cooperativeness, and kind-heart value in novel Oliver Twist. Because this story In *Oliver Twist*, Dickens often shows how superficial class structures really are at the core, everyone's

really the same, regardless of the social class into which they're born.

3. The moral values which are discovered in the Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* the novel have implications in the education. The students can learn and practice those moral values in their daily life. Therefore, by reading the novel they not only get the entertainment but also moral messages which are implied in the novel. Moreover, novel can be used as a media in education.

B. Suggestion

To close this research, the researcher would like to give some suggestion as follow:

1. The novel *Oliver Twist* was interesting a novel. The researcher invited other researcher to analyze the moral values of this novel by using other theories.
2. Novel can be used as a media in education. Reading literature is very beneficial for us because we can learn some messages which are conveyed by the author. It assists us in comprehending the human values, interests, feeling, and problems.
3. Moral values is important to human life. Therefore, it should be introduced to the children early in order to comprehend the good and wrong behaviour. The role of family is significant to the children because the environment of the family is the first place for them to grow up.

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